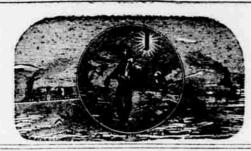
## FAIR



# PLAY.

VOLUME XXV.

STE. GENEVIEVE, MISSOURI, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1897.

rent and sadly

day; most cruel

sweetheart mine

And now I send it back to you to be

Others may bring red roses and sing of Cupid's darts, Of mating doves and dimpled loves or prate

But I, I only send you this-'tis of myself a

part; What will you do with it, fair maid, this

Wilt wear it as the roses above your own

dear heart?
"Twill glow and blossom if you will—your smile shall cure its smart.
You've tossed it back to me so oft, and yet

'twas half in play, Ah' keep it now, for Cupid's self brings it to you to-day! He's sworn to be my messenger, to lay it at

To use his gentle offices to gain it shelter

sweet; And should he fail—then keep it still; I

would not even grieve
Tho' it were silver-plated, dear, and worr
upon thy sleeve.

-May Eldred Armstrong, in Chicago Post.

STORY.

men who, without meaning to be disa-

greeable, nevertheless make themselves

disliked wherever they go. The real

reason was that he was utterly devoid

of tact. He seldom failed to say the

wrong thing, especially when it was es-

sential that he should say the right. If there was a chance of putting his foot

into it, into it (as sure as eggs) his foot

went. If he was obliged, in the exer-

cise of his duties, to make an unpleas-

ant remark, he was absolutely certain to

say is in the most unpleasant way. These unfortunate proclivities were al-

ways dischaying ...
There was another little point about

especially among the tradesmen of

the place. He was "near" in the matter

of money. He seemed to have a con-

stitutional aversion to parting with it.

Even when an account was due he in-

variably dallied in the discharging of

the same; and though he always paid

up in the end, he often kept shopmen

waiting longer than they cared about.

It was really a fad of his-a mere

idiosynerasy, and did not arise from

any conscious churlishness. But the

shopkeepers of Whinfield regraded it

shopkeepers of Whinfield regarded it

niggardly nature; and though they

supplied the vicar, because it was worth

their while, they nevertheless disliked

Whinfield was a small place of 1,500

inhabitants, something between a tiny

town and an overgrown village. It

had quite a fair number of shops-

butcher, baker, fishmonger, grocer,

linendraper, ironmonger, wine mer

chant and tobacconist. It was served

by a doctor, eke by an auctioneer. But

there was one important thing not to be

had there-namely, law. No solicitor

had yet found it worth his while to set-

But about the middle of October a year

or two since a solicitor did, at length,

Whinfield. His name was Perks. He

was a shrewd, dapper, little man, of pre-

in the village. Although his manner

was bland and courteous, it was pretty

obvious that he was not quite a gentle-

man. But as very few persons in Whin-

field-except the squire and the vicar-

had any pretensions to that distinc-

tion, the solicitor's lack of the pure

a man with whom they could associate

This is just what Perks did. He con-

This naturally made him popular in

"Mr. Perks is quite the gentleman,"

said Mrs. Grocer Hobb, "and there's no

"True, Maria," asserted Hobb, her

Perks is a good sort. And if I have a

nasty pride about him, neither."

on a footing of equality.

their circle.

Perks' way."

make his appearance, and set up

tle in so small a place.

bim with all their commercial souls.

had which increased his

HE vicar of Whin-

was one of those

distribution in the second of the second of

of bleeding hearts;

living, human heart?

played with

for many a

NUMBER 39.

#### \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* FEBRUARY-1897. Sun. Mon. Tue. Wed. Thur. Fri. Sat. 3 4 5 9 10 11 12 13 1 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

#### CURRENT TOPICS.

THE NEWS IN BRIEF.

#### FIFTY-FOURTH CONGRESS.

Second Session

In the senate, on the ist, a resolution was offered and referred looking to an investigation of the recent presidential and state election in Delaware and an inquiry as to whether a republican form of government exists in that state. The Nicaragua canal bill was then taken up, the discussion proceeding on Mr. Vilas motion to have the bill recommitted Mr. Vilas secured the floor and had not concluded his remarks when the senate after a short executive session adjourned. In the house the day was devoted to miscellaneous business, a number of bills being passed. The last hour was spent in consideration, in com-mittee of the whole, of the diplomatic and cousular bill, which was not concluded when the

In the senate, on the 2d. Mr. Chandler (tep., N. H.) Introduced a resolution, which went over, locking to the ultimate use of silver as well as gold as standard money with free com-age of both. The conference report on the imanigration bill was the subject of long speeches by Mr. Gibson (dem., Md.) against, and Mr. Lodge (rep., Mass.) in defense of the report of the conference committee. The report went over without action. The remainder of the day was taken up by Mr. Vilas in continuation

of his speech against the Nicaragua canal bill.

In the house the only haviness of im-portance was the passage of a resolution pro-viding for a joint session of congress on the 10th to count [the electoral votes and declare

In the senate, on the 3d, two resolutions previously introduced looking to the impeding or preventing the sale of the Union Pacific rail-road property under a judicial decree of fore-closure, were discussed at length by Mr. Thurston, the morning hour expiring before he concluded. The remainder of the session was devoted to the Nicaragua canni bill... In the house, after nearly the whole day was devoted to the contested-election case of Cornett vs. Swanson, from the Fifth Virginia district,

the latter's title to the seat was confirmed by an overwhelming majority. In the senate, on the 4th, as soon as the routine morning business was disposed of, house bill to prohibit the sale of intexicating liquors in the capitel was taken up, and went over 311, against 373 for the corresponding week last year. For Canada the fliwithout action. The conference report on the

ninished business. The further conference asked by the senate upon the immigration bill was agreed to, and conferces were appointed A few unimportant bills were passed.

tinued his speech in opposition to the resolution of Mr. Allen (pop., Neb.) questioning the right of the executive department to consent to the judicial sale of the property of the Union Pacific Railroad Co. The Nicaragua canal Siamese frontier between thematives bill was taken up, some adverse speeches being made thereon. A large number of pension and other bills unobjected to were taken from the calendar and passed. In the house 61 private pension bills were disposed of several contested-election cases were considered and doubled in favor of the sitting members and the conference report on the military found a shortage of nearles15,000 in another bill was agreed to. An evening sesting the accounts of Cashier C. E. L. slottes beld for the consideration of private Breeder, of the First natioal bank of

### PERSONAL AND GENERAL

FIRE was discovered in the boys' dormitory of the Genesce Wesleyan seminary at Lima, N. Y., shortly after midnight on the 1st. The building has burned to the ground. The loss is estimated at \$50,000. There were 100 boys in the building, but all escaped with their lives. One student was injured by jumping from a window so badly that he died soon after.

LEE B. McFARLAND, teller of the Second national bank of Parkersburg. W. Va., is short \$45,000 in his accounts. He has confessed that he lost the money in speculation. The shortage will be made good.

THE Kalamazoo (Mich.) high school building was destroyed by fire on the 1st. The cause of the fire was an explosion of furnace gas. The loss is estimated at \$40,000; insurance, \$12,-000. Several firemen were injured. one of them fatally, by the breaking of a ladder.

THE debt statement, issued on the 1st, showed a net increase in the publie debt, less cash in the treasury, during January of \$15,078,735. Total cash in the treasury \$858,553,910.

MB. J. S. WILSON, of Iowa, telephoned to friends on the 1st: "I have accepted the portfolio of agriculture in Mr. McKinley's cabinet."

On the 1st the president reappointed Martin A. Knapp, of New York, to be

interstate commissioner. Foun men who were cut off from escape by fire in the Tamarack mine, at monkeys and rodents enjoy complete Houghton, Mich., were, on the 2d, abandoned to their fate, orders being issued to seal up the shaft, the attempt to pump air in to the entembed miners having only resulted in increasing the

fury of the flames AT All Saint's cathedral, Albany, N. Y., Dr. James Dow Morrison, rector of St. John's church, Ogdensburg, was, on the 24, consecrated bishop of the Episcopal missionary diocese of Du-

THE state house at Harrisburg, Pa. was destroyed by fire, on the 2d, entailing a loss of \$1,000,000; insurance

PRESIDENT HARPER of the University of Chicago announced at the chapel services, on the 2d, that Lady Aberdeen, wife of the governor-general of Canada, would be the convocation orator at the university commencement exercises in the Auditorum April Lady Aberdeen will have the honor of being the first woman chosen for

such an occasion in this country. Clacinnati broke, on the 3d, as did also the gorge in Licking river, and the tation, near Kissimmee, Fia., has been packet Henry M. Stanley and 20 purchased by a syndicate of Cubans. barges were swept out into the cur- The capacity of the sugar mill will be rent of the Ohio. The Stanley was doubled at once, and 2,000 acres of while drifting down the Ohio. | cane will be planted next fall.

THE big works of the Case Thresh ing Machine Co., at Racine, Wia, will resume operations on the 8th. They have been closed for six months. Sev-eral hundred men will be given employment.

THE house committee on patents, on the 3d, ordered favorably reported the bill amending the copyright law so as to prevent the fraudulent use of the word "copyright" and to strengthen the law in this direction, it gives the courts the remedy of injunction as well as penalty in such cases.

Almost the entire business portion of Arlington, O., was destroyed by fire on the 2d. Six business firms were burned out, and one family barely escaped with their lives.

WHAT is called a Christian theater will be opened in Paris for the purpose of producing highly artistic, literary and moral plays, which, it is au-nounced, Catholics may attend without having their faith insulted.

ADVICES received by the authorities in Constantinople, on the 3d, Indicate that the bubonic plague has made its appearance at Djivadir, Beloochistan. THE Deyear-old son of Druggist Dreis, of St. Paul, Minn, threw a snowball, on the 3d, at a man in a cutter. The ball, striking the horse, caused it to run away, and this resulted in three other runaways, causing considerable damage. Two of the victims called on Mr. Dreis, on the

sent a bullet through his brain. THE American Coffee Co. was incorporated at Trenton, N. J., on the 4th, with a capital stock of \$100,000. The incorporators are Henry O. Havemeyer, John E. Searles, John E. Parsons and Theo. Havemeyer.

4th, for payment, when the latter re-

tired to his office without a word and

THE Fairfield ship-building works in Glasgow were burned on the 4th; loss £50,000, and 5,000 men were thrown out of employment.

Much alarm is felt throughout India owing to the spread of the plague. Cases have been reported as far north

government for increasing the

strength and efficiency of the navy contemplates the construction of five battleships and three first-class cruis ers and the addition of 10,000 men. Famures throughout the Unit! States during the week ended the 54,

week last year. For Canada the filmmigration bill occupied attention for a time, after which the Nicaragua canal bid was taken up and Mr. Vilas delivered the fourth day's installment of his speech in prosition to it.

In the house the District of Coumbia bid was further considered and remained the unposition. Since the considered and remained the unposition of the constant of the c

loans and discounts, \$155,000. John L. Sullivan, ex-champic pugilist, had his application to tak the In the senate, on the 5th, Mr. Richard R. Kenney was sworn in as senator from Dela-kenney was sworn in as senator from Dela-ware and took his seat. Mr. Thurston con-court having been made wit the creditor.

under French protection and the Siamese. The date of the figling was not given, and no detaits ere fur-

nished. EXPERT accountants, on the 5th, found a shortage of nearles15,000 in the accounts of Cashier C. E. L. Bethlehem, Pa. Breeder hd absconded. The amount was taen in small sums, showing systematicpeculation. Breeder was cashier 20 yers.

### LATE NEWS JEMS.

In the senate, on the th, Mr. Thurston continued his opposition to his colleague's resolution > prevent the judicial sale of the Unon Pacific railroad property in a spech which occapied the time of the session until 2 p. m. The Nicaragu canal bill was allowed to go over irormally in order to pass bills on the elendar that were unobjected to, 15 of hich were passed. The day's session clsed with eulogies on the late Represutative Cogswell, of Massachusetts. . . In the house the bill making approriation for the expenses of the Distict of Columbia was passed, as was, alo, the bill to amend the Wilson tariff act so as to permit treasury official to sell forfeited opium to the highest bidder, and not require them to secure the amount of

the duty, \$10 a sound. DR Kocn, the eminent German bacteriologist, has telegraphed from Cape Town that he is returning to Berlin with anewly-discovered scrum which will lesen the force of hinderpest. In the scantime he says he is unable to say whether he will be able to prevent animals from being infected with the disease. He has demonstrated that sheep and horned cattle are the most hable of all animals to contract the disease, and that dogs,

immunity from it. THE weekly statement of the New York city associated banks, for the week ended or the 6th shows the following changes: Reserve, decrease, \$1,068,200; loaas, increase, \$8,747,900; specie, decrease, \$125,100; legal tenders, decrease, \$5,075,600; deposits, increase, \$5,630,000; circulation, decrease, \$1,324,

Gov. BRADLEY of Kentucky has par doned James Singleton the nine-yearold boy convicted of house breaking in Bond county and sentenced to the penitentiary for a year. The governor said it would be a crime against civilization to send a child of such tender

years to the peniteniary. J. P. Morgan & Co. and the Deutsche bank of New York, as managers of the Northern Pacific reorganization syndicate, have called from the syndicate all the remaining holdings of preferred and common stock not called up by the first circular issued Febru-

#### MISSOURI STATE NEWS.

Said a Vision Foretold Her Death. Miss Julia A. Summers, aged 78, died recently near Metz, in the northern part of Vernon county.

She moved to Vernon county from Kentucky 67 years ago, with her parents, who settled on the Little Osage river, at a time when the Osage Indians were in that part of the country. For years she and one sister and brother lived together, and none of them was ever married. First the sister, then the brother died. Miss Summers lived in four counties during her residence in the same little rudelyconstructed home; first in Jackson, and then in Cass, next in Bates and finally in Vernon. The farm she died upon was obtained by her parents from the government, and has never

changed hands Years ago Miss Summers said she had a vision that she had is years to live. The limitation was up some time between her seventyeighth and seventy-ninth anniversaries. About a week before she died, when her attendant wanted to call a physician, she said there was no use, as he could never raise her again, al-though there was no acute maindy to battle against From carly childhood she was a member of the Christian church.

Gave His Children Horseffesh. A man by the name of Glesen, who has been in the United States four years, unable to speak English, fed his

family on horseflesh in St. Louis. He was out of work, had no credit, and his children were hungry. An old horse came wandering by and Gleson shaughtered it. When a policeman called to investigate, he found one-quarter of the horse on the table in found one-quarter of the horse on the table in the kitchen, and through the interpreter the father said, pointing to the four children, who watched the iroccedings with hungry eyes: "They will sleep well to night, for their little stoma its will be full."

He also hid a kettle of water on the fire lie also hid a kettle of water on the fire preparing to make horseflesh soup and stew. Gleen ddn't seem to think he had done any-thingout of the way in feeding the flesh to his children but rather seemed to regard it as a case of good luck that he found the horse.

Taxpayers Got Tired. The Pettis county court has refused to order warrants for the payment of 11 fee bills from the justices' courts fe January, aggregating \$3,160,80.

The court's refusat is based on the ground that they were excessive, and their adovance would be a gross injustice to the taxpayers of the county. For some time past nearly overy amp that arrived at Sedalia has been arrest as Delhi and as far south as Banga-lore.

The bank of England reduced its rate of discount, on the 4th, from 3% case. This business has been carried on so extensively that a halt was demanded by the tax-The plan formulated by the British payers, and the action of the county court is the first step in this direction.

Mother and Child Buried Together. There was a sad incident at Sedalia the other day.

Brief funeral services were held over the re-mains of Goldie Leffer, daughter of Mrs. James Leffer. When the services were concluded Mrs. Leffier requested that she be per-mitted to kiss her child. She did so, and in-side of fire minutes the mother was also a corpse. She died of grief. The function of the little one was stopped, and the next day mother and child were buried together.

A Minister in Politics. Rev. Dr. Boyd, the head of the Civic Federation in St. Louis, says that some of the appointments made by the mayor are the worst "possible outside of h-ll." He also says that the mayor

ather and Mother Badly Burned.

Mrs. William Owings, of Burton township, Howard county, was probably fatally burned by her clothing catching fire. Mr. Owings was so badly burned in an effort to extincuish the flames that he may die. They have four small children.

Joshua Hightower. Joshua Hightower, prominent in Cedar county, died recently. Mr. Hightower was born in North Carolina, March 5, 1813, and at the age of 23 married Miss Cornelia Smith. He moved to Vernon county he lived until 1881, when he discover-

the celebrated El Dorado springs. Draws the Line on Horseflesh. The health board of St. Louis draws the line on horseflesh for food, and has drafted an ordinance prohibiting the slaughter of horses for food and making it a misdemeanor for anyone to use

such meat for food. Result of Cooking in Old Utensils. Mrs. M. Fry, 2817 Franklin, St. Louis, cooked a buttermilk lunch for her children, which they ate and became very ill. Doctors say they were poisoned by the food being cooked in old

utensils. She Was Poor, and Froze to Death. Martha Lacey, colored, who had no home, was frozen to death in the basement of a dilapidated and uninhabited house in Lexington, where she had gone for shelter with her two little

A Disagreeable Time. A passenger train was derailed in

the tunnel under the St. Louis customhouse. The tunnel was filled with smoke, and the passengers had a disagreeable time before they were re-The Case of Arthur Duestrow.

Duestrow, of St. Louis, who murdered his wife and child, has been denied. Duestrow is under sentence to hang. A Miser's Death. John Williams Ohms, an aged miser,

The motion in the supreme court

for a rehearing in the case of Arthur

died in St. Louis in squalor from the lack of nourishing food. Ter thousand dollars was found in the room in which he died.

An Aged Woman Burned to Death. Mrs. Elizabeth Hall, aged 80, was burned to death in the fireplace of her home near Bryant, Douglass county. She accidentally fell head forward into

Influential Cedar County Citizen Joseph Cline, aged 81, died at Eldorado Springs. He leaves quite an estate. Mr. Cline was one of the most influential men of Cedar county.

Mexican War Veteran. John T. Rollins, aged 70, died at Kearney, Clay county. He was a Mexican war veteran, and went across the plains to California in '49. Congregationalist for Seventy Years.

Mrs. K. W. Doty, aged 83, died at the

residence of Rev. A. J. Van Wagner,

near Carthage. She was for 70 years Congregationalist. A Place for Warner. A rumor comes from Canton that Maj. Wm. Warner, of Kansas City, will be first assistant under the new secre-

tary of the interior.

the vicar's manner was scarcely agreeable. Where he felt dislike it was posseveral snubs from him, "pour le bon motif." But at length, seeing the uselessness of such a course, he abandoned but my heart I on the sic morn, All battered, shat-

There was scarcely a tradesman in Whinfield who was not to be numbered in this category. From Grocer Hobb downwards every one of them had his grievance against the vicar. "Treats against the vicar, without further nome like a dog, he does," said one. "Never calls to see me when I'm ill," said another. "Is always grumbling at my meat," said a third-the local "I calculate this will just about give his butcher. And so forth. While in one common grievance against him all concurred-namely, his tiresome habit (already mentioned) of keeping them waiting for their little accounts. "Tisn't as if he was hard up," was the unanimous complaint. "He has plenty of money. He simply does it to make

himself disagreeable. Of course, Perks heard these grumbles in his almost daily intercourse with the tradesmen of Whinfield. The solicitor -in spite of his bland exterior and insinuating wave-was not the man to forget a slight or to pardon a snub. He meant to give the vicar a Roland for his Oliver when he saw the chance, and it occurred to him, after some reflection, that he might, perhaps, see that chance in this aforesaid matter of the vicar's little accounts.

It was getting on into February and the vicar's Christmas bills still remained unsettled. Perks conceived a wish that the tradesmen to whom the bills were due would put them into his hands for collection. The wish strengthened into a longing, the longing into a fixed resolve. He began, by a gradual and insinuating process, to get the tradesmen in the mind to cooperate.

This was not such a very easy matter. For though the Whinfield shopkeepers

best of times, and to his decrest friends, the vicar would be doubly incensed if do owe the money, of course. And i he received the dunning letter in the was going to pay these seven accounts form of a valentine. He had not told this week. Still, to have the money deitively forbidding. Perks put up with his clients the exact strain in which he manded in such an impudent way is inshould write, nor the extreme peremptoriness of the demand he should make. But the letter which he posted to the Perks." further attempts to win the vicar's vicar on Valentine's eve was as good a friendship, and openly declared himself | specimen of the sharp-practice solicitor's on the side of the reverend gentleman's composition, when intentionally insolent, as could be well desired. The gist of it was that unless the whole amount due on these seven accounts were paid to him, Sidney Perks, by return of post, he should issue process

"There," said Perks to himself, triumphantly, as he sealed up the envelope. reverence fits."

to say, it put him into a fine state of rage and excitement when he read it at breakfast next morning. His angry looks and savage frowns struck de cided consternation into the breasts of the two other persons who were sharing that meal with him. These were his only daughter, Amy, and his nepbew, Frank Miller, a young barrister, who frequently came down from town, when he was not very busy, to stay at the v!carage. The fact was, there had long existed a sort of attachment between the cousins, of which the vicar was unaware. It had not, however, developed into an express engagement until that very morning; when young Miller, com-ing down early and finding his cousin in the garden, had taken the opportunity-for which the day was so singularly appropriate-of declaring a passion which he could not any longer conceal.

Amy had answered his proposal with a blushing acceptance; stipulating, however, that Frank should inform her father of the circumstances immediately, and this he had, of course, agreed to. He did not, however, look forward to the interview with any great pleasure or confidence, for two sufficient reasons. growled at and disliked the vicar in no In the first place, he knew that his uncle measured degree, still his custom was had a prejudice against first cousins a consideration; and, glad as they marrying; in the next, his own worldly would have been to do him a nasty turn, circumstances were not, at present, such they nevertheless were not prepared as would commend themselves to a to take a step which would drive him prospective father-in-law. He had, inaway altogether from their shops, deed, a little money of his own; and



Perks, however, was a smart man, and the vicar, being well off, might, if he he managed, in the end, to engineer his scheme. He was-it may be added -providentially assisted in this matter by the vicar himself. Just at the right minute (from Perks' standpoint) the reverend gentleman had complained to Grocer Hobb about the quality of the bacon supplied him, and had, indeed, possessing exterior and insinuating ways, who soon made to himself friends

sent back half a side as unfit to eat. Something of the same sort happened in reference to Shanks, the butcher Shanks had a sirloin returned to him on the ground of its being cow-beef. It was cow-beef. But Shanks had sold it for ox-beef, and he felt it an unwar rantable insult to have his word thus

questioned. "haut ton" was no barrier to his getting Butcher Shanks was not logical; no was Groeer Hobb. And each was led on. Perhaps, indeed, it rather helped him; since it was to the tradesmen and by his dislike for the vicar to believe farmers that he would chiefly have to that the vicar himself had purposely insulted him. Perks rejoiced to fine look for business; and they preferred them both in this mood. He struck while the iron was hot. He unfolded to them his pretty little scheme for giving the vicar beans. If they, and the other stantly went to the tradesmen's houses. He dined and supped with them. He tradesmen in the place, to whom the did the civil to their wives and daughvicar owed bills, would combine and hand him their accounts to collect, he ters. He often dropped in casually in the afternoon for a cup of tea, or in the would soon read his reverence a lesson evening for a pipe and a glass of grog. He would teach him to be careful how

he insulted honest tradesmen. Grocer Hobb and Butcher Shank liked the idea of the vicar being taught that lesson. But they made it a "sine qua non" that if they did this thing the other creditors of the vicar in Whin-

spouse, a fat and prosperous figure, field should do likewise. Perks undertook to see the oth bit of lawyering to be done I'll put it in creditors, and, if possible, to secur their compliance. He saw them; he For the first month or two after his talked to them in his most insinuating arrival in Whinfield Perks was a regular : way; he worked upon their unqualified attendant at the parish church. It was ' hatred for the vicar. The end of it was the proper, the respectable thing to do. that the solicitor was instructed to col-Besides, to get in with the vicar-even lect the seven largest accounts owed by when the vicar is unpopular-may pay | the vicar in the place. They amounte

a newcomer very well in a country jointly to about 200 pounds. It was then the end of the first week But the vicar did not take to Perks at in February, and Perks' intention was all. From the first he had shown a dis- that the vicar should receive his agree like to him, and nothing that the solici- able communication on the morning of for did to ingratiate himself in that Valentine's day. Perks had a tolerable quarter made any difference. At the notion of effect; and he considered that

It did give his reverence fits. That is

chose, make his only daughter a good allowance. But whether he would do so, or would even countenance the engagement at all, was a decidedly doubt ful matter; though Frank believed that if he could manage to catch his rever ence in a good humor, he might be able

te talk him round. Frank's and Amy's dismay, there fore, when they saw that the vicar had been seriously put out of temper by his correspondence, can well be understood; more especially as he was a man who did not get over the effects of prevocation at all quickly, and had a playful little way of venting his aunoyance on all who came near him, whether concerned in the provocation or not. The worst of it was, Frank was bound to be back in London in five or six days at the least, and, of course, his interview with his uncle must take place before his departure.

After breakfast, his uncle called him into his study. "Just read that, Frank," he said, handing him Sidney Perks' epistle.

"By Jove! What's all this about

Psha!-Impertinent ass!-Hillon, Sidney Perks? Sidney Perks?" commented young Miller, as he glanced over the "Do you happen to know the little cad, then?" inquired the vicar, in evident surprise. "He is a newcomer here;

and no acquisition, either." "I-I-don't suppose so," replied Frank. "I did come across a solicitor of the name about a year ago; but his

ractice was in town." "A short, little man?" asked the vicar; pitted with smallpox? Jewish face? Wears glasses -ch?

"Ah, he is evidently not the same," inswered Miller, decidedly. "My man was tall and gaunt, and not pitted with smallpox. But I tell you what it is, uncle. This fellow, from his letter, is evidently a sharp and shady practitioner of the nastiest type. He wants a lawyer to deal with him. Just you

turn him over to me."
"I—I don't know," said the vicar, doubtfally. "Nothing can be done, I script.

tolerable. I shall certainly leave all these tradesmen who have instructed

"I should. They deserve being made to sit up. But, in any case, it will be much more agreeable for you not to have to act in the matter personally. You leave it entirely in my hands."

This, after some demur, the vicar, at length, agreed to do; Frank persuading him that it would be far more dignified for him to have no personal communication whatever with Perks or with the tradesmen. And so the affair was placed, unreservedly, in the young bar-

The vicar rubbed his glasses and looked at the letter again. He felt that his eyes must have deceived him. But no. There the thing was in black and white, unmistakably clear and evident, and as the vicar read it a second time, he gave quite a gratified smile. But still he was puzzled.

The letter was as follows: 2 and 3 The Broadway, Feb. 18, 189—. Reverend Sir: In thanking you for your most generous and honorable behavior. I take the opportunity of apologizing, with all my heart, for what has occurred in reference to my account. The truth is, reverend sir, that I was enticed by the deceiving arts of a cheat and swindler; and I need not say that I shall be only too pleased to cooperate in any steps that may be taken for his arrest and punishment. Your grateful and obedient, HEZEKIAH HOBE.

The vicar opened a second letter which had arrived by the same post. It was from Shanks, the butcher, and was even more effusively apologetic than Hobb's. It also referred to "your having acted so honorable and like the gentleman." The vicar looked still blander and more gratified, but still decidedly puzzled.

There were five other letters from local tradesmen, and all ran in much the same strain, not one of them omitting to eulogise him for his honorable conduct. Never in his life before had the reverend gentleman received seven such flattering communications. He did not, in the least, understand what they meant; but still they put him in an excellent humor. Honorable? Certainly, acting on his nephew's advice, he had given him checks for distribution among the seven tradesmen on the previous day; but, that was only a settlement-rather a tardy one into the bargain-of his just debts. There was nothing extraordinarily honorable in that. Still it is always nice to be acknowledged honorable, especially by your enemies. And when the vicar had finished reading the seventh letter he was in a very good temper indeed.

At that fortunate moment a knock came at his study door, and Frank entered. Seeing the expression on his ing his momentous confession about Amy. The vicar exclaimed. He l and hawed. But he was in a heavenly temper; and he ended by giving his consent.

This is how Frank Miller had worked his little scheme. Sidney Perks was the solicitor whom he had come across in town; and, in certain dealings with him, Frank had learnt some facts about Perks, by communicating which to the proper authorities, he could have brought him to the bar of the Old Bailey. l'erks had tried to obviate such a possibility by promptly clearing out of town. Curiously enough he had betaken himself to the very place of which Frank's uncle was vicar.

Armed with these irresistible arguments, Frank had, on the morning of Valentine's day, gone straight to Perks' office, and, under threat of setting the police on to him immediately, had made two demands, to which, after some useless demur, Perks was fain to consent.

The first demand was, that he should write out and hand over to Frank receipts for the seven accounts. The secand, that he should leave Whinfield within 12 hours. Upon these conditions, he should be left to escape and lose himself, unmolested. Frank was inexorable, and Perks was not in a position to resist. So both demands were complied vith.

Frank's next step, two days later, ras to go round and see the tradesmen, informing them that the vicar had duly paid their accounts to Perks, and prolucing the receipts; he also advised them (in a friendly way) to look sharp after their money, as ugly rumors were current about Perks, and he was said to have bolted. . . These concerned lost no time in hurrying round to Perks' office, where he was not; and thence to his house, which (his servant told them) he had quitted hurriedly two days before. "Where had he gone?" "He hadn't left no address." Then, indeed, was bitter lamentation and outery heard among the swindled shopkeepers. Then it was that the vicar (all unknown to himself) had "acted so honorable and like a gentleman," by writing the checks for the seven accounts and handing them to Frank to distribute. This astute young man had left the trades men under the impression that, in order to save them from loss, his uncle had paid their accounts twice over; and had lescanted, in rather strong terms, upon this truly Christian return of good for

Frank did not acquaint his uncle with these little mysteries until he was just starting on his honeymoon. And as, by that time, the vicar had tasted the sweets of six months' popularity in the parish, and found it exceptionally agreeable, he saw no reason to forfeit it, at this late hour, by any useless dis-

closures.-London Truth. A Natural Mistake.

"Oh, look!" exclaimed Ruth, a victim of the passing craze, "what lovely posters!" And she and Mabel went into the store and purchased several doffars' worth. Pray, how were they to know that the goods bought were not posters, but comic valentines?-Bostor Tran-